

Pray: You would forever remember the source of your strength.

Monday 4/14

Read: There is a human attribute related to pride that is equally destructive to your relationship with God. This is the sin of indifference. Your attitude becomes apathetic. No longer do you have a zealous interest in the well being of others. No longer do you seek to serve God through your service to others.

Application: How is your spiritual zeal? How does it compare to the call of scripture in **Romans 12:9-13**? Pay particular attention to the word sincere in verse 9. The word sincere is of great importance to your attitude towards God's service. **Hebrews 10:22** declares that it is with sincerity that we should "**draw near to God**". That same sincerity should flow forth in our day to day life.

Pray: Your relationship with God would be genuine, free of any deceit or pretense.

Tuesday 4/15

Read: Before we go too far we need to spend a little time reflecting on the cornerstone of our Christian life. Scripture teaches that we are to glorify God and enjoy Him forever. Consider **I Corinthians 10:31** and **Revelation 4:11**. The primary purpose of the Christian life is to bring glory to God.

Application: Even when we are doing what God's word commands we can lose grasp of the fundamental concept of glorifying God and enjoying Him forever. Often times, we have higher credence for our godly service than we do for our primary objective to make sure every action we take points directly to God. God, and only God, is the one who is worthy to receive glory, honor and power.

Pray: For a healthy perspective on the reason why you are doing what you are doing.

Wednesday 4/16

Read: Last week we spent considerable time discussing the wrath of God and how the contemporary view of God does not allow for the concept of a godly judgment. After all, doesn't the Bible say that God is love? Certainly it does. But it also says that God will not allow sin to go unpunished.

Application: Don't fall victim to the temptation to look only at the portions of the Bible you find pleasant. Striving to understand how much God hates sin and how His punishment will come upon those transgressions should actually increase the depth of your love for God.

Pray: The more you read of the wonderful love and justice of God the more you will desire to follow Him.

Thursday 4/17

Read: God's holy justice means that each one of us will be held accountable. All of us will have to answer for our actions and our inactions. This is the day of the Lord that will come for everyone. Read **Acts 17:31**. There will be only two possible verdicts at the judgment.

Application: When you are called before God to give an answer for your life the judgment you receive will be based on righteousness. Either your answers will show your righteousness lies in yourself, or it will reveal your righteousness lies on the atoning death of Jesus Christ. For the former, the verdict will be condemnation. For the latter, the verdict will be glorification.

Pray: You will be prepared for the day of the Lord. That your life is founded on the righteousness of Christ.

Friday 4/18

Read: Understanding both the love and justice of God should give your life a double edged purpose. First, your love for God would catapult you into His service. Second, that your understanding of His justice will provoke you to preach the good news of Jesus Christ to everyone.

Application: As you look at yourself, consider **II Peter 1:5-8**. This is scriptures exhortation to the Christian to build upon his faith in Christ. To be sanctified by the word of God. As you look at others, consider **Acts 1:8** and **Matthew 28:19-20**. This is scriptures exhortation to be a light to the world.

Pray: Your Christian life would be reflected both inwardly and outwardly.

Saturday 4/19

Read: Consider **Zephaniah 1:14-18**. This portion of scripture further describes the wrath that God will unleash. The day of the Lord will be a day of distress, anguish, devastation, ruin, darkness and gloom.

Application: Don't be afraid to read about Gods wrath. Learn from scripture the horror of standing before an angry God. Understanding the nature of God will add to your holy fear of Him, and spur you on to be His witness wherever you go.

Pray: Your understanding of the love of God in Jesus Christ will give you courage as you learn more about God's complete and perfect nature.

Wonderful Words of Life

Philip P Bliss

1. Sing them over again to me, wonderful words of life;
let me more of their beauty see, wonderful words of life.
words of life and beauty, teach me faith and duty:
beautiful words, wonderful words, wonderful words of life.
2. Christ, the blessed One, give to all, wonderful words of life;
sinner, list to the loving call, wonderful words of life.
all so freely given, wooing us to heaven:
beautiful words, wonderful words, wonderful words of life.
3. Sweetly echo the gospel call, wonderful words of life;
offer pardon and peace to all, wonderful words of life.
Jesus, only Savior, sanctify forever:
beautiful words, wonderful words, wonderful words of life.

O the Deep, Deep Love of Jesus!

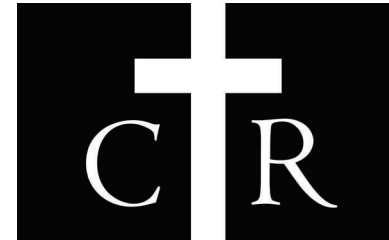
Thomas John-Williams

1. O the deep, deep love of Jesus! Vast, unmeasured, boundless, free;
rolling as a mighty ocean in its fullness over me.
underneath me, all around me, is the current of thy love;
leading onward, leading homeward, to thy glorious rest above.
2. O the deep, deep love of Jesus! Spread his praise from shore to shore;
how he loveth, ever loveth, changeth never, never-more;
how he watches o'er his loved ones, died to call them all his own;
how for them he intercedeth, watcheth o'er them from the throne.
3. O the deep, deep love of Jesus! Love of ev'ry love the best:
'tis an ocean vast of blessing, 'tis a haven sweet of rest.
O the deep, deep love of Jesus! 'Tis a heav'n of heav'ns to me;
and it lifts me up to glory, for it lifts me up to thee.

Taking Gathered Worship Home

Zephaniah-The Day of the Lord

Week of April 13, 2008



CHRIST *the*
REDEEMER

■ PRESBYTERIAN ■

The people of Judah were guilty of three categories of sin. Worshiping idols, being unfaithful to God and not seeking to be holy as God is holy. These sins have placed the nation in the path of God's vengeance. The day of the Lord that Judah is about to experience is the result of a just God exerting His divine sovereignty over all things. God is about to declare His holy verdict against the sins of Judah. There will be anguish everywhere and no escape from God's scrutiny is possible. The people of Judah have become complacent and indifferent and no longer endeavor to live for the glory of God.

[Reading this week from Zephaniah 1:7-13](#)

Sunday 4/13

Read: Christians today fall prey to the same complacency that befell Judah. The church often lapses into a state of self satisfaction and develops an unholy contentment in their beliefs, accomplishments and morality.

Application: What we are really talking about is pride. No longer is there a reliance on the grace of God. In fact, there comes a time when there may not even be a recognition that it is God who has made us who we are. Read **Proverbs 16:18** and **John 15:5**. What does the Bible say about the prideful person? What does the Bible say about those who forget their roots?